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**Abstract:**

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project:** Joseph Keefe University of Illinois Alum Status Class of 2006 Slang Word: Durb Informant Data: Joseph Keefe was born in Oak Park, IL in October of 1983. He has had two of his older sisters attend the University of Illinois. The slang word that I chose to interview him on was first heard by him in 1998 while just in 8th grade. Joe and I have also been friends for 10 years. Contextual Data: Joe first heard the slang word 'durb' in 1998 while just an 8th grader. At the time that he heard the word there were a lot of rumors around this time of girls and guys becoming more sexually active. He being in a Catholic school at the time made more of an impact as his religious beliefs conflicted with the word and oral sex as a whole. "At first when I heard the word, was from a friend of mine. Since my sisters were in high school at the time I asked them about it and they confirmed the meaning for me." He went on to say, "It basically was another way of calling what a girl did to a guy—you know a blowjob. It really helped because a lot of the teachers didn't know what it meant so it made it funny to talk about in class. You heard a lot of people in the hallway talk about Dick Durbin, with a lot of emphasis on the 'durb' part of the word. It would be like, Dick Duurrrrbin if you heard it in the halls." Joseph Keefe Interview Continued Slang Word: Swipe Contextual Data: In the past year Joe went to visit one of his friends that he has known for over 10 years in New York City, NY. His friend recently moved out there for his new job. Joe noticed that a lot had changed about his friend specifically some of the new slang and vocabulary he used. Joe mostly went along with the new words and ended up laughing hysterically at one word in

particular. He was laughing so hard he just had to ask his friend for the definition and thought it would be useful for my project. The word 'swipe' was something that his friend referred to quite often when talking about the girls that his friend had met over his year in New York. "I asked Ken exactly what the word meant and he described it as a girl that he calls for booty calls after the bars are closed." Joe went on further to ask me, "What's in your back pocket usually, as a guy." I replied, "My wallet." He then went on to say, "Well, in your wallet you have credit cards right? Credit cards are very convenient and now you can use them almost anywhere. Credit cards have been known in the past of being called a swipe. My buddy now uses it when talking about his booty calls." Joe believes that most girls have never even heard the word before used in that context which makes it easy to use almost anywhere he goes. Joe finds it funny that certain words have many meanings and likes the hidden meaning in the word swipe and mostly uses it in public areas like bars or clubs. Joseph Keefe Interview

Continued Slang Word: Goosh Contextual Data: Joe first heard this word while in college here at the University. This word was brought up quite a bit in his circle of friends, because some of his friends tried to go awhile without swearing. Joe being Catholic caught on to this idea and willingly participated in trying to cut back on the swear words. "Swear words were getting old with us, plus some of us had mouths like sailors. We wanted to change things up a bit. Obviously, we don't have the same commitment now, but still was a cool little phase." Joe admitted a lot of the words didn't stick, but the slang word 'goosh' still sticks for him and his friends to this day. "Yeah we still use it to describe almost anything from clothes, food, and even a happy ending with a girl." Finding it rather interesting to merge 2 words together I needed to ask where it came from. "Well, basically everyone in my circle of friends would always say, 'good shit' or that was awesome. Saying, the 'goosh' instead just sounds cooler, I guess. A lot of girls make fun of the word, but I think they are just jealous they didn't think it up. Girls that we hang out with use the word now. It's just catchy." Conclusion: The words that I chose to analyze were words I have heard of but hearing the definition

from my friends was a lot different that I expected. It brought back memories on when I had heard the word and I think that his description of feelings are the exact same that I have had when hearing new meanings. My belief is that after interviewing my friend that these words that have been used lose there 'mojo' after a while because many find the hidden meaning in each word. These slang words are sacred and when exposed makes the meaning less important.

Vocabulary List 1. Can of Corn = Fly ball hit from an opposing batter to a fielder. A usual reference used to describe a play in the MLB. (Major League Baseball) 2. Fam = Short for family. A term used to show affection from the sender to the receiver in a conversation. Endearment. Used in a sentence. "Hey Fam, you should go see Lakeview Terrace." 3. Soda Pop = Used to describe beer or any beverage that has alcohol. Another term to describe an alcoholic beverage. Usually said in an office environment. Used in a sentence: "Hey you want to go get some soda pops after work?" 4. Hanging = This word has had many meanings. My meaning is a day after drinking a little too much. Used in a sentence: "I am still hanging from last night's festivities." Short for saying a person is hung over. 5. Goosh = This term is a combination of 2 words. (Good and shit) This is used as a noun and/or adjective. Used in a sentence: "That food was the goosh." A shorter way to say, 'good shit' without necessarily needing to swear in public. 6. Durb = A local term from my hometown. This term is not widely known. It is used to explain oral sex on a man from a woman. Other terms it could identify with are, head, brain, and blowjob. It was derived from the U.S Senator, Dick Durbin. His first name Dick has made this term easy for those to understand when it comes to substituting the phrase blowjob with 'durb.' 7. Cheddars = Used to describe plus sized women. Also could be used to describe women who are not looked at as being aesthetically pleasing in the face. Used in a sentence: "There are nothing but cheddars in this bar tonight, lets leave." Short for "Cheddar Hogs." 8. Larry = Sure, it sounds like just a proper noun, but it is more than that. This name is used to describe a guy who doesn't meet the standards of being a 'true' male. A way of cutting down a guy who is not 'cool.' Synonyms: Nancy, pansy,

and loser. Used in a sentence. "Me being a Cubs fan, sox fans are a bunch of Larry's." 9. Swipe = Used to describe a girl and/or guy who you call only after the bars/clubs close. Normally heard in reference to a girl. Can be seen as a derogatory term. 10. P.O.W = Prisoner of War. This term is originally used in the military for those soldiers who have been captured by the enemy. Now it is used to describe a guy who is either a boyfriend or married to a person of the opposite sex.

**Proverb project:** Proverb List

1.) "It's not timing the market; it's time in the market." = My financial advisor speaking to me. October 9, 2008. He was helping me better understand the market and to stay calm during the time of turmoil.

2.) "Where there's a will, there's a way." = My friend talking to me about him looking to buy property during the current market conditions. October 8, 2008. Explaining that if a person really wants something he will make it happen regardless of outside adversity that may be prevalent.

3.) "Every dog has its day." = Playing video games this weekend with friends. October 11, 2008. My friend was speaking with another friend after he had won 3 games in a row. The friend that had lost the 3 games said this phrase to basically mean that it was his day to be dominant in the video game. Ultimately, admitting his losses and saying tomorrow he would not find the same result.

4.) "Let's just call a spade a spade." = My friend talking to our degenerate gambling friend. My friend called our friend that he is a degenerate gambler. My degenerate gambling friend denied being compulsive in gambling. Meaning = You are what you are, very blatant and/or uncouth with description to someone or something. October 10, 2008.

5.) "You live by the sword, you die by the sword." = Another proverb heard while playing video games with friends. Meaning: If you do something with one idea and

do not accept other methods in which to complete a task you could lose or not complete a task as well as you thought. October 11, 2008.

6.) "When the cat's away, the mice shall play." = My brother speaking to his friends and me about his wife being out of town this weekend. Meaning: Cat is in reference to my brother's wife, and stating that if she is out of town, my brother and friends can 'finally' have a good time. October 11, 2008.

7.) "Finders keepers, loser's weepers." I coach a fall league baseball team for 11 and 12 year old boys. I overheard this proverb while putting away equipment. October 7, 2008. Meaning: If find something that isn't yours you can keep it, while whoever lost it will be sad that had lost it.

**Proverb:** "It's not timing the market; it's time in the market."

**Contextual Data:** Since our economy has been doing poorly as of late I was concerned about some of the money that I had saved up and wanted more information. I called my financial advisor and asked if I should remove some of the money that I had in stocks because I hadn't seen an uptick in the stock in quite some time. My financial advisor went on to explain to me that the market is a bit of a roller coaster ride, but that I should stay committed to what I have invested in thus far. I couldn't process his advice because I was losing a lot of money and fast. So, he tells me, "Chris, you have to take the emotion out of the money, I know that is hard to understand because it's the money you have saved, but remember, It's not timing the market, it's time in the market." After sitting on that thought for a minute I realized that there is something to be said for those who are patient and don't panic. I have stuck with it thus far and I am back to even on most of my investments given the recent aid from the government.

Thinking back on this proverb you can look at it in 2 different ways. You can take it as being patient can have

positive success or as its literal meaning of you can't try to time the market and make money. Rather, money is made of a duration of time. This could also bring ties from other proverbs such as, 'Rome wasn't built in a day,' and 'Patience is a virtue.'

**Proverb:** "Where there's a will, there's a way."

**Contextual Data:** Another situation where market conditions have stirred up emotions. I was talking to a friend of mine who was looking at buying a home in the next month or so. I explained to him how market conditions were bad (as if he didn't already know) and that he should buy as soon as he could. The problem would only be to secure the financing loan from the bank. He has been looking for this home to buy for at least 10 months now and hasn't been able to get an agreement from a seller. Just recently, he got an agreement on a home and I told him that now all he needed to do was get the loan and I told him that now will be the toughest part. He says, "Chris, I have been trying to get a place for like 9 months. I am gonna get it, where there's a will, there's a way right?" A very positive proverb that honestly, made me believe that he was going to get it.

I heard this on another occasion while listening to ESPN 1000, a radio show in the morning. I thought it was interesting how this is used in a positive light again when they were showing examples of passion for the sport of football. One example began with a 21 year old kid who shattered his pinky finger while playing football at a Division II school. It was his senior season and they told him he would need season ending surgery on his pinky finger. The player decided to have the doctor amputate the finger and play his final 5 games of the year. The radio host said, "Wow! Talk about a guy with heart. See, this is a prime example of where there's will, there's a way. Unbelievable!"

**Proverb:** "You live by the sword, you die by the sword."

**Contextual Data:** I heard this comment twice in the past week, once on ESPN and also in my own home. The first

time I heard this in my home last week, we were all gathered around playing video games. As my two friends were playing they were talking trash to one another. One friend explained that his opponent was one dimensional and was going to exploit that flaw in his strategy to win. At the end of the game, the friend who called the other, one dimensional won the game. He then got up and said to his opponent, "Hey man, you live by the sword, you die by the sword." This was telling him again, that he was figured out from the beginning and he needed to be more versatile to be able to beat him. My other friend only knew one way to win and to say the least, was unhappy about the loss.

Second time I heard this proverb used was when football analysts on NFL Primetime (a show on ESPN) were talking about the flaws with the New England Patriots football team, especially since their star quarterback, Tom Brady was out for the year with an injury. The football analysts were jawing about different flaws and one analyst in particular stated, "You live by the sword and you die by the sword, and you can tell that this football team has fallen apart since Brady's injury. This team is not going to be able to pick up the pieces since his departure and it's showing every week of this football season."